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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 020154-001110US

On April 20, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: _____

Lois M. Simón

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Pamela Cifra
Michael D. Dake
Christopher Elkins

Application No.: 10/692,191

Filed: October 22, 2003

For: MODULATION OF ZINC LEVELS
TO IMPROVE TISSUE PROPERTIES

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 8424

Examiner:

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1614

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF
INCOMPLETE REPLY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed April 9, 2004, and prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 3 of this paper.

04/26/2004 HLE333 00000028 201430 10692191

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Appl. No. 10/692,191
Amdt. dated April 20, 2004
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1d and 12. These sheets, which include Fig. 1d and 12 replace the original sheets including Fig. 1d and 12.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets